



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED
with Confidential Attachment**

Appointment of the 2008 Identify 'N Impact Review Panel

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| Date: | May 22, 2008 |
| To: | Community Development and Recreation Committee |
| From: | Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration |
| Wards: | All |
| Reason for Confidential Information: | This report deals with personal matters about an identifiable person. |
| Reference Number: | |

SUMMARY

This report recommends the appointment of members of the Allocations Review Panel for the 2008 Identify 'N Impact Investment funding program. The individuals recommended for appointment are listed in Confidential Attachment 1.

The panel members are youth from priority neighbourhood areas with local experience of youth and community issues. Panel members receive training in City of Toronto funding policies and practices, effective program development and youth issues in preparation for their role in making allocation recommendations. The panel is supported by staff from the Social Development, Finance and Administration Division. Recommendations for funding allocations will be considered by the Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-committee and the Community Development and Recreation Committee before being forwarded to City Council for approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration recommends that:

1. Council appoint the individuals listed in Confidential Attachment 1 to the 2008 Identify 'N Impact Investment Program Allocations Review Panel; and

2. Council authorize the public release of the approved list of Identify 'N Impact panel members as part of the reporting out of the 2008 funding process for the Identify 'N Impact Investment Program.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the current year's budget.

DECISION HISTORY

In June, 2006 Council approved Review Panel Guidelines for Community Partnership and Investment Programs. A review panel is a body that includes people other than City staff which assesses eligible applications and makes recommendations regarding the allocation of funding. Establishing an Allocations Review Panel requires approval from City Council. The Panel will reconvene for the third time in 2008.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Identify 'N Impact Investment (INI) program was approved by Council to fund youth-led projects that enhance engagement opportunities for youth through community organizations and groups. The program was initiated through the advocacy efforts of the Toronto Youth Cabinet, and works to encourage and build youth leadership capacity.

The participation of youth in the review of applicants was initiated in the 2006 INI process, and provided helpful information and insight into the assessment of applicants. The Panel will work with staff to review eligible applications and make funding recommendations. The panel members will bring an understanding of youth culture and local opportunities to the review process that is not currently available within the city.

COMMENTS

Panel members were recruited through a flyer that was distributed widely across the city, sent to youth organizations and posted on the city web site. Toronto Youth Cabinet members created the flyer and participated in the outreach to potential panel members. Community Development staff also worked to identify young people in priority neighbourhoods who might be interested in participating.

In keeping with the Council approved focus of the Identify 'N Impact program, recommended members live in one of the city's 13 priority neighbourhood areas and represent racialized youth, particularly African Canadian youth. Recruitment was targeted to youth who have not had previous opportunities to participate in formal engagement processes or decision-making bodies.

Representatives of the Toronto Youth Cabinet worked with staff to select panel members through a screening and interview process. The list of individuals recommended is a

result of this process, and includes representatives from eight neighbourhood areas and from Toronto Youth Cabinet. All the recommended members have confirmed their interest and participated in training workshops. The training workshops and the review meetings take place from May to July. Committee and Council consideration of the panel recommendations takes place in September.

The Identify 'N Impact review panel terms of reference provide the framework for the work of the panel. Panel members' evaluation of the process will be part of any changes recommended for future years.

| Identify 'N Impact Investment Program Allocations Review Panel Terms of Reference | |
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| 1. Purpose | To bring youth experience and participation to the allocation of funds invested in youth-led projects. |
| 2. Membership | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panel will have 10-12 members • Membership will be recruited in an open call, and selection will include participation of Toronto Youth Cabinet members • Membership is open to youth between the ages of 15-24 • At least two members will represent the Toronto Youth Cabinet • Up to 5 members may be re-appointed from a previous year • New members will be recruited from youth who have not had access to formal engagement opportunities or participation in decision-making bodies • Members will represent racialized youth and youth from priority communities |
| 3. Quorum | The quorum for decision-making will be 50% of the panel members. |
| 4. Role of the Panel | <p>The role of the panel is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend program training and information sessions • Review and evaluate eligible INI applications • Make recommendations on funding with the assistance of SDF&A staff, that will go forward for approval to appropriate committees and Council • Attend meetings of the panel for review, evaluation and decision-making • Understand and comply with city policies for grant-making • Maintain confidentiality of records and deliberations and adhere to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act • Declare all conflicts of interest such as membership, employment and other affiliations with applicants in the program • Provide feedback on the panel process |
| 5. Term | One year funding cycle. |
| 6. Time Commitment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 training sessions (about 2 hours each) • 8-10 hours of independent review of applications • 3-4 half day sessions for panel review and evaluation |

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Confidential Information: Appointment of the 2008 Identify 'N Impact Review Panel

